

Contact: Willie Puz, Public Affairs and Recycling, 561-640-8914 (o); 561-379-2405 (c)

### As Hurricane Threatens, Do Not Trim Trees

Palm Beach County is in the cone of uncertainty for Hurricane Matthew. With the storm's path shifting further west, Governor Scott has declared a state of emergency for every Florida county due to its severity and magnitude.

The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County asks all county residents to refrain from cutting down trees or doing major yard or construction projects until we are out of the cone. Waste placed curbside during the possible landfall of this storm may put a strain on collection and disposal efforts, and large piles of vegetation and construction debris may be left at the curb should the storm make landfall in our area.

The SWA will be monitoring the storm's potential path to make a determination on any facility closures or cancelled garbage, recyclables and yard waste collections in the unincorporated parts of the county.

For additional information on debris collection in unincorporated parts of the county, contact SWA Customer Information Services at 561-697-2700 or 866-792-4636 (toll-free), or visit [www.SWA.org/Hurricane](http://www.swa.org/Hurricane)

### Helpful hurricane resources:

- Learn how to prepare your family by visiting [www.ReadyPBC.org](http://www.pbcgov.com/dem/knowurzone/)
- Get the PBC Dart app [on your smart phone.](http://www.pbcgov.com/newsroom/0712/07-30-12_pbc_dart.htm)
- Watch a short video from SWA for safety tips [.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UjREEFIsaOY)
- Learn more on what to do during and after a storm [.](http://www.swa.org/153/Before-During-and-After-the-Storm)
- Learn more from the National Hurricane Center [.](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/)

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The Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County is a Dependent Special District that was created by the Florida Legislature in 1975. Since then, the SWA has developed an award-winning integrated solid waste management system to handle the county's waste and recyclables. We call ourselves AWAY: whether you throw it, recycle it or flush it AWAY, we put your waste to work. Each year, we:

- Process approximately 100,000 tons of recyclables [each year](http://www.swa.org/RecycleRight)
- Burn approximately 1.6 million tons of trash each year to generate electricity at renewable energy facilities [.](http://swa.org/364/Renewable-Energy-Facilities)
- Produce enough electricity to power approximately 74,000 homes
- Recycle 150,000 tons of wastewater treatment residuals  [\(sludge from flushes\) into environmentally-friendly fertilizer](http://swa.org/353/Biosolids-Processing-Facility)
- Safely dispose of more than 3.2 million pounds of home hazards  [a year](http://swa.org/171/Home-Chemical-Disposal)
- Collect water off of the roofs of Renewable Energy Facility 2  [and store it in a 2 million gallon cistern, which is used as part of the energy making process](http://swa.org/375/Palm-Beach-Renewable-Energy-Facility-2)